

**From:** Constant Contact [support@constantcontact.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2011 11:37 AM

**To:** Wampler, Jennifer (DCR)

**Subject:** Your email Latest Greenways and Trails News from DCR has been sent  
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## Email Confirmation



Dear Jennifer Wampler,

Your email, named Spring 11 E-news, was sent on 03/23/2011 around 11:37 AM EDT.

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### Subject: Latest Greenways and Trails News from DCR



State Parks • Soil & Water Conservation • Natural Heritage  
Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance • Land Conservation  
Outdoor Recreation Planning • Dam Safety & Floodplains

## Greenways and Trails Program E-News

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Spring 2011

Forward to a Friend

Welcome to the DCR Greenways and Trails Program  
News Group. Scroll down for information on how to unsubscribe or update your profile.

### DOJ Rulemaking Challenges Trail Managers

A new [Department of Justice rulemaking](#) effective March 15 is requiring trail managers to make changes to their policies, practices and procedures related to the use of power-driven mobility devices (i.e. Segways, ATVs, golf carts, etc.) by individuals with mobility disabilities.



These policy, practice and procedure modifications are required to permit disabled individuals using these devices to go wherever pedestrians are permitted on public lands or private lands that are open to the public--unless the device cannot be operated in accordance with legitimate safety requirements or an assessment determines that allowing the use of the device would not be a reasonable modification of policies, practices and

It's Unanimous! Spotsylvania  
Trailways

Best Practices in Recreation  
Planning

### Upcoming Grants

[EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants  
Program](#)  
3/31/11

[Safe Routes to School Mini Grant](#)  
Proposals due  
4/30/11

[Chesapeake Bay Gateways/  
Watertrails Network](#)  
Applications due 4/4/11

[American Civil War  
Sesquicentennial Tourism  
Marketing Program](#)  
**Open 2/7/11-Close 4/7/11**

[Virginia Environmental Endowment  
Mini-Grant Program](#)  
Due June 15, 2011

[VTC Marketing Leverage  
Program](#)  
Open early spring

[Tourism and the Arts Marketing  
Program](#)  
Open 6/1/11--Close 8/2/11

American Rivers - EPA  
Potomac Highlands  
[Implementation Grant Program](#)  
Augusta, Clarke, Fauquier,  
Frederick, Loudoun, Page,  
Rockingham, Shenandoah, and  
Warren counties  
August, 2011

[Funding opportunities in Virginia](#)

[Grants.gov](#) is the federal funding site for  
1000 grant programs offered by 26  
agencies.

## Virginia War of 1812 Heritage Trail Legislation

procedures. This rule implements *Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, for State and local government services.

Trail managers have been scrambling to assess their trails to determine whether these devices should be allowed in specific facilities based on five factors: 1) the type, size, weight, dimensions, and speed of the device; 2) the facility's volume of pedestrian traffic; 3) the facility's design and operational characteristics; 4) whether legitimate safety requirements can be established to permit the safe operation of the device; and 5) whether the use of the device creates a substantial risk of serious harm to the immediate environment or natural or cultural resources, or poses a conflict with Federal land management laws and regulations.

While the intent of this ruling is to permit equal access to outdoor facilities, it is causing difficulties for trail managers who have no funding or staff resources to undertake these assessments and no current classification system for ranking these devices. Trail managers are also concerned with potential liability associated with declaring a trail "safe" for these devices.

Although many questions remain to be resolved as this new rule is implemented across the country, helpful information on this rulmaking is available at the [American Trails](#) Web clearinghouse, including an archived Webinar, questions and answers, and links to other accessible trail resources.

## Obama's Promise to Future Generations: A 21st Century Strategy for America's Great Outdoors

The President has released the long-awaited [America's Great Outdoors Report](#), with a vision that children, regardless of where they live, have access to clean, safe outdoor places within a short walk of their homes or schools, where they can play, dream, discover, and recreate.

Also envisioned is a system of natural areas and waterways, whether publicly or privately owned, that are connected, healthy, and resilient to support both human needs and the wildlife that depend on them.

Communities are called upon to work together to restore and protect healthy rivers and lakes that provide recreational opportunities and contribute significantly to a vibrant economy.

### Plan Goals

- Develop quality conservation jobs and service opportunities that protect and restore America's natural and cultural resources
- Increase and improve recreational access and opportunities
- Cultivate stewardship and appreciation of America's natural, cultural, and historic resources through innovative awareness-raising partnership initiatives and through education
- Build stewardship values and engage youth in conservation and recreation
- Invigorate the LWCF to better meet conservation and recreation needs
- Create and enhance a new generation



## Signed by Governor

A [bill](#) to establish The Virginia War of 1812 Heritage Trail was approved by the Governor on March 16. The trail will consist of historical markers, sites and places associated with the War and significant individuals who provided leadership for the nation before and during the war. The bill identifies 104 of these sites, but specifies that costs for the markers will be borne by the requesting party.

Proceeds from the sales of [license plates](#) marking the bicentennial will support this work and other programs of the Virginia Bicentennial of the American War of 1812 Commission.

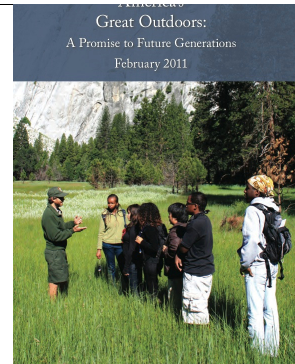
To read more about encounters with the British during this second war for independence, visit the [Society of the War of 1812 in Virginia](#).

## FABBulous work in Fairfax!

The [Alliance for Biking and Walking](#) recently awarded the [Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling](#) (FABB) an Innovation Award for their [Guide to Reviewing Public Road Design and Bicycling Accommodations for Virginia Bicycling Advocates](#). The Alliance declares this "28-page booklet simplifies and streamlines the confusing road design process with easy-to-follow flow charts, handy check lists and explanations that make sense to folks who don't have a masters degree in urban planning." Thanks to FABB and their partners for shining light on this subject!

of safe, clean, accessible great urban parks and community green spaces

- Catalyze large-scale land conservation partnership projects through economic incentives and technical assistance
- Significantly increase the pace of working farms, ranches, and forestlands conservation.
- Increase financial incentives for land stewardship for farmers, ranchers, forest landowners, and tribes
- Conserve, restore, and manage federal lands and waters to ensure access and enjoyment for future generations while contributing to the protection of a larger natural and cultural landscape
- Advance national, regional, and community-supported efforts to preserve and enhance unique landscapes, natural areas, historic sites, and cultural areas while ensuring openness and transparency in any land designations
- Protect America's historic and cultural resources
- Empower communities to connect with America's great outdoors through their rivers and other waterways
- Support restoration and conservation of rivers, bays, coasts, lakes, and estuaries for recreation, healthy fisheries, and wildlife habitat
- Improve federal government performance as a conservation partner
- Amplify the impact of the AGO Initiative by creating the Partnership for AGO



The Department of the Interior has established a [website for youth](#) that will serve as a one-stop shop for information on job and internship opportunities, upcoming outdoor events, educational resources and more. The site provides [online resources](#) with 32 links for ways to get involved.

## Carr Mountain Trail

By Tom Johnson

Located in a remote section of the George Washington National Forest in Virginia, Carr Mountain is a "land that time forgot." Hunters and horseback riders occasionally penetrate this remote woodland, but if you came to Carr Mountain you could stay for days and days and probably see no one.

Volunteers have been working on this new section of trail for two years, and hope to finish it in 2011. Once finished, hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians can begin at the eastern end of FR 302, a dirt road maintained by the Forest Service. The road is over eight miles, and the end is where the new trail segment begins. First it climbs Cabin Ridge, then Beech Lick Knob, the high point in this area. After that users will traverse the saddle that leads to Carr Mountain itself. Down the western slope of the mountain, they will finally emerge onto FR 232. A few miles of road walking will put them onto the top of Shenandoah

## Free Urban Bikeway Design Guide

The National Association of City Transportation Officials recently released an [Urban Bikeway Design Guide](#) to "to provide cities with state-of-the-practice solutions that can help create complete streets that are safe and enjoyable for bicyclists."

### 2011 Calendar

April 14-16  
2011 [TN Greenways and Trails Forum](#) Murfreesboro, TN

May 5  
[I-TED 2011: International Transportation Economic Development Conference](#)  
**Charleston, WV**

May 7  
[Cap2Cap Classic](#)  
Richmond, VA

May 15-19  
[13th Conference on National Scenic & Historical Trails](#)  
Abingdon, VA.

June 4  
[National Trails Day](#)

June 18-25  
[James River Batteau Festival](#)

June 24-29  
[Bike Virginia Tour-New River Valley](#)

July 21-23 ~ [Southeastern Equestrian Trails Conference](#)  
Auburn, AL

Sept. 17-20  
[VRPS Annual Conference](#)  
Norfolk, VA

September 24  
[Public Lands Day](#)

Mountain, where they can begin the long walk south to West Virginia.



Horses schlep tools to the work site.

The new trail is six miles long measured from the end of FR 302. There is no road access in the middle, so volunteers have been carrying trail building tools from either end. All three users - hikers, bikers and equestrians - have pitched in. By the end of the year they will really have something to show for it!

A special thanks to all the volunteers who are working to make [The Great Eastern Trail](#) a reality.

## Appalachian Trail Communities

### The Appalachian Trail Conservancy is now accepting applications for the AT Community program!

The Appalachian Trail Community program is design to help communities enhance economic development, engage community citizens as Trail visitors & stewards, aid local municipalities & regional areas with conservation planning, and help local community members see the Trail as a resource & asset. Damascus and Pearisburg including the surrounding Giles County have recently been approved for designation in Virginia. The program in Virginia is supported by funds from the Virginia Environmental Endowment. For more information click [here](#)

### Virginia Journeys 2011: The Appalachian Trail Conservancy's 38th Biennial Conference

Hosted by the seven A.T. maintaining clubs of Central and Southwest Virginia, the Biennial will celebrate the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and the Blue Ridge Mountain Trails of Virginia. Planned around ATC's membership meeting, [Virginia Journeys 2011](#) is also an opportunity for A.T. enthusiasts to take a Trail related workshop, hike on the A.T. (and other trails) in Virginia and Tennessee and explore historic Abingdon, Marion and Damascus, Virginia - the "friendliest town on the Trail."



## NRPA Launches Online Benchmarking Tool

### PRORAGIS Online Database

A searchable online database with mapping capabilities for parks, trails and facilities hosted by the National Recreation and Parks Association also has data on how parks and recreation departments are organized, financed, and staffed. Departments can use this tool to benchmark themselves with other departments both locally and nationwide.

Barbara Tulipane of NRPA says "as America faces serious financial crises, it's imperative that park and recreation agencies have the necessary tools to justify funding requests and to create viable master plans. [PRORAGIS](#) will provide valuable assistance to agencies as they strive for increased public support."

NRPA will be conducting a webinar on Thursday, April 15th at 2:30 PM to demonstrate the model. There are only 150 spots for this webinar (free to NRPA members) so click [here](#) to register.

## DCR Releases Green Infrastructure Video

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation offers several tools to assist communities in preserving and maintaining green infrastructure.

The newest is a DVD entitled "[Green Infrastructure: Protecting Our Commonwealth](#)."

Feel free to use this short film as an educational tool in your

## SPOTSYLVANIA TRAILWAYS MASTER PLAN IS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

By Jacob Pastwick

The [Spotsylvania County Trailways Master Plan](#) was unanimously adopted February 22, 2011 by the Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors. Adoption of this plan culminates approximately one and a half years of work in development of the plan.

Prior to adoption of this Plan, trailways were addressed in a cursory manner within the Thoroughfare Plan of the Comprehensive Plan. This Plan provides for a comprehensive system of road-based trails (sidewalks, shoulder improvements, multi-use paths) and greenway trails that do not end at the County boundaries, but rather take into account existing, proposed, and potential networks in adjacent localities. The Plan also seeks to provide an integrated system of trails so that the facilities do not stand alone, but ultimately will intersect with one another, provide for loops, and connect thematic resources, such as the County's Civil War battlefields.



The Plan is intended to be a stand-alone plan; however, it was created with consideration to other existing plans including the [Virginia Outdoors Plan](#) in an attempt to ensure that it is consistent and harmonious with other important planning efforts. This plan is not intended to replace or nullify other trailway plans that involve Spotsylvania County. These existing plans have been incorporated into, and further support the improvements proposed within the Spotsylvania County Trailways Master Plan. The result is a Plan that complements larger regional, state, and nationally significant trail systems.

During development of the Plan, staff realized that trails would not be supported by all and that there would be citizens opposed to trails planned on or proximate to their property. Additionally, while many citizens realize the benefits of trailways and wish to see expanded opportunities for pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian facilities, the support diminishes when confronted with the question of how to fund the trails. Knowing these would be obstacles to gaining widespread public support and to eventual adoption of the plan, staff set out to develop a plan that would avoid use of local tax payer dollars and be flexible in terms of both implementation and the actual routing of the trails.

Early in the planning process, Spotsylvania County partnered with a newly formed grass-roots organization called [Spotsylvania Greenways](#)

community by showing it at public meetings and sharing it with local leaders.

Thank you for helping us spread this important message. This film was funded through a grant from the Urban and Community Forestry program provided through the [Department of Forestry](#).

To order your free DVD, contact:  
Julie Buchanan  
804-786-2292  
[Julie.buchanan@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:Julie.buchanan@dcr.virginia.gov)

## Changes to COGGINS Regulations

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has revised their regulations effective March 2, 2011 so that the requirement now includes horses "all horses assembled at a show, fair, race meet or other such function or participating in any activity on properties where horses belonging to different owners may come into contact with each other in Virginia must be accompanied by a report of an official negative test for equine infectious anemia."

For the complete text of their press release on the regulation change, [click here](#)

DCR will enforce the new regulation beginning March 2, 2011 on all DCR property. As of that date anyone with a horse on DCR property that cannot produce the Coggins paperwork will be subject to a Class 1 Misdemeanor and the horse will have to be removed from our property.

The regulation specifies: "The person in charge will ensure that a copy of the official negative test

[Initiative \(SGI\)](#). SGI brought a wealth of knowledge to the planning process. Their membership includes community stakeholders, trail enthusiasts, and citizens interested in seeing to it that that planned greenway system becomes a reality. One of SGI's goals is to coordinate a significant volunteer effort to aid in the construction and maintenance of trails. The partnership also provides for a combined effort in seeking grant funding and corporate partners to lessen the need to expend public funds on trails. SGI has also supported development of the plan through public education and outreach. This effort, as well the approach taken in the plan to define the greenway trails, has helped to gain support among the citizenry.

Staff took a corridor approach to defining the routes of the proposed trails instead of drawing hard lines on the maps. The intent is to allow the flexibility to meander the trail within the defined corridor to avoid property owners that are not willing to grant a public trail easement. Providing for this flexibility in the plan further reinforces the basic premise that trails should be constructed to minimize impact on property owners and to keep the public costs associated with trails to a minimum. Adoption of the greenway trails plan was successful because it takes into consideration and attempts to accommodate the development rights of landowners. Greenway corridors have been generally targeted within areas where development restrictions are already in place including along utility right-of-way corridors and along resource protection areas (RPA) corridors. Targeting areas where restrictions on development already exist are beneficial to our implementation efforts going forward because they add no additional burden on development potential of a parcel. These corridors also offer a planning benefit offering existing linear corridors that traverse the county, connecting a wealth of our historic, environmental, and cultural resources. Once complete, the railway system will positively help tell the story of Spotsylvania County and give residents and tourists a new opportunity to experience our County.

The successful passage of the Spotsylvania Trailways Master Plan was assisted by the County's partnership with the Spotsylvania Greenways Initiative and a great degree of citizen and stakeholder input and discussion gained through survey research, community meetings, email and telephone inquiries resulting from the posting of the draft document for public view well before the public hearings. Staff has been very receptive to citizen comments and the plan certainly reflects that. Research into how other localities throughout Virginia and the nation planned for trailways facilities also helped inspire a framework from which we were able to construct our plan.

For those of you interested in learning more about Spotsylvania County Trailways planning and to view the plan online, simply go to <http://tinyurl.com/spotsytrailways>.

## NAARP GUIDE FOR RECREATION PLANNERS

### BEST PRACTICES IN RECREATION PLANNING GUIDE UPDATE

results accompanies each horse in the event or activity." Riders should be sure to have a copy of the Coggins report showing a negative test report with the horse at all times.

Any questions regarding the change in this regulation should be directed to the  
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Office of Veterinary Services at  
804.786.2483.

*DCR Trails Program Mission:  
Provide assistance and education  
to encourage the development,  
maintenance and promotion of  
attractive, sustainable and  
connected trails throughout the  
state.*

Jennifer Wampler  
Trails Coordinator  
[jennifer.wampler@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:jennifer.wampler@dcr.virginia.gov)  
Virginia Dept of Conservation & Recreation, Division of  
Planning and Recreation  
Resources

The National Association of Recreation Resource Planners is working on a [Best Practices in Recreation Resource Planning Guide](#) that can be accessed online in draft form.

The six chapters listed below have been posted to the website. Dr. John Baas, the project manager for this effort, intends to finish all the book chapters during 2011.

1. Introduction
2. Principles of Planning
3. The General Planning Process
4. Scoping and Public Involvement
5. Recreation Resource Inventories and Data Collection
6. GIS Applications

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Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation - Division of Planning and Recreation Resources | 203 Governor St. | Suite 326 | Richmond | VA | 23219